

**Answer all SIX questions in SECTION A and THREE from SECTION B.**  
The numbers in square brackets at the right-hand side of the text indicate the provisional allocation of maximum marks per question or sub-section of a question.

**You may need:**

Permeability of free space  $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H m}^{-1}$ .

Permittivity of free space  $8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$ .

Speed of light *in vacuo*  $3 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

Charge on electron  $1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Mass of electron  $9.1094 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

For any vector field **A**:  $\nabla \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = 0$

and  $\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A}$ .

## SECTION A

1. Write down the relationship between the electric field strength **E**, the electric displacement **D** and the polarisation **P**. State the units for each quantity. Write down the equivalent relationship between the magnetic vector fields **B**, **H** and **M**. Give the name of each of these fields. [2]  
  
Explain very briefly why only two of these six fields are needed to fully describe electromagnetic effects in vacuum. Which ones are they? [1]  
  
Give brief descriptions of the physical properties of the materials which give rise to the quantities **P** and **M**. [3]
2. Write down the expression for the e.m.f. induced in a closed conducting circuit *C* by the rate of change of the magnetic flux  $\Phi_c$  which passes through it. Explain how this is related to the integral form of the Faraday law. [3]  
  
Use the appropriate theorem to derive the differential form of the Faraday law from the integral form. [3]

**PLEASE TURN OVER**

3. Show, starting with the appropriate Maxwell equation, that normal components of  $\mathbf{D}$  are continuous across a plane boundary between different media at which there are no surface charges. [5]

Explain briefly why this boundary condition leads to the conservation of lines of  $\mathbf{D}$ . [2]

4. A toroidal magnet has a primary coil with  $N$  turns carrying  $I$  amps wound on a ferromagnetic yoke with minor radius  $r$  and major radius  $\approx R$ . Use the appropriate law to derive an approximate expression for the value of  $H$  inside the material. Briefly explain the assumptions made. [3]

With the aid of a sketch, state briefly what needs to be added to such a toroid in order to measure changes in the value of  $B$  inside the material. Hence explain how the major hysteresis loop for the material of the yoke can be established. [4]

5. Draw a ray diagram for light falling onto a plane glass surface from vacuum. Label the angles of incidence, reflection and refraction. [2]

Assuming that incoming and outgoing waves have the form

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 \exp i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$$

derive Snell's law for refraction and show that the angles of incidence and reflection must be equal. State any extra assumptions you need to make. [5]

6. Given the equation  $\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} - \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0$ , show that plane electromagnetic waves of the form given in question 5 above, in a uniform conducting medium, obey the dispersion relation  $k^2 = \mu\epsilon\omega^2 \left(1 + i\sigma/\epsilon\omega\right)$ . Define all the symbols in these two equations. State briefly what this implies for the quantity  $k$  in a good conductor. [4]

Show in the limit when  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$  that the phase and group velocities derived from this relation are equal. How are they related to the velocity of light in vacuum? [3]

**CONTINUED**

## SECTION B

7. We can treat each turn of a long solenoid as a distinct circuit  $i$  carrying current  $I_i$ , with magnetic flux  $\Phi_i$  passing through it. Given that the total magnetic energy stored in a system of circuits is  $W = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i I_i \Phi_i$ , show that the energy per unit volume stored in a long solenoid wound over a uniformly magnetized cylindrical core is  $U_m = \frac{1}{2} HB$ . [8]

A material whose magnetic properties are dominated by the Curie law has

$$\chi_m = \frac{Nm_0^2\mu_0}{kT} + \chi_0.$$

What does each of the symbols in this expression represent?

Write down the expression relating  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$  and  $\chi_m$  in a linear isotropic material.

What kind of behaviour is governed by the Curie law; paramagnetic, diamagnetic or ferromagnetic? Briefly describe how the magnetic properties of each of these types of magnetic material varies with temperature. [4]

A piece of material whose properties are dominated by the Curie law has magnetic susceptibility  $0.9 \times 10^{-4}$  at 300 K and  $2.9 \times 10^{-4}$  at 100 K. What will its susceptibility be at 0.003 K? [4]

If the material is kept in a region with constant uniform magnetic field strength  $H$ , by what factor will the stored magnetic energy in the sample increase when the temperature is reduced from 300 K to 0.003 K? [4]

[Edited from the original version of the question]

8. Explain the relation between the continuity equation  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_f = -\frac{\partial \rho_f}{\partial t}$  and the conservation of charge. [3]

The Ampere law in its original form was  $\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J}_f$ . Show that this equation is inconsistent with the continuity equation. Use the Gauss law to show that an extra term, the displacement current density  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$ , must be added to the right hand side of the Ampere law to make the two equations compatible. [6]

By taking the curl of the modified Ampère law, and justifying all assumptions made, derive the wave equation  $\nabla^2 \mathbf{H} = \epsilon\mu \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{H}}{\partial t^2}$ . [5]

Demonstrate from the steps of your derivation that the displacement current term must be present to obtain a second order differential wave equation. [2]

In a medium where the relative permittivity is 2.5 and the relative permeability is 0.95, what is the speed of light? [4]

**PLEASE TURN OVER**

9. The dispersion relation for waves in a plasma is  $k^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \left( 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \right)$ , where

$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{N_e e^2}{\epsilon_0 m}}$ . Define all of the quantities in these two expressions. Give a brief qualitative explanation of  $\omega_p$ . [3]

If  $\omega > \omega_p$  demonstrate that the group velocity  $v_g$  and the phase velocity  $v_p$  for such waves satisfy the equation  $v_g v_p = c^2$ . State briefly how this can be reconciled with expectations from the special theory of relativity. [5]

Show that if  $\omega < \omega_p$  electromagnetic waves will be absorbed as they pass through the plasma, with attenuation length  $L = \frac{c}{\omega} \sqrt{\frac{1}{(\omega_p^2/\omega^2 - 1)}}$ . [6]

A (fictional) Vogon spaceship sets up a uniform plasma barrier 1m thick to defend itself against incoming electromagnetic radiation at 1 MHz. What is the minimum electron density required for such a plasma to have any shielding effect? [3]

How much must the electron density be increased beyond the minimum in order to attenuate the amplitude of the incoming radiation by a factor of  $e^{-2}$ ? [3]

10. Briefly explain the physical meaning of the Poynting vector  $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$  for time-varying fields. What are its units? [3]

Show that for plane electromagnetic waves the average of the Poynting vector over a whole number of cycles is given by  $\langle \mathbf{N} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{\mu}} E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ . Define all of the quantities in this expression. [7]

Show, by summing over photons or by other arguments, that the pressure exerted by an electromagnetic wave which is reflected normally from a surface is  $2 \langle N \rangle / c$ . [5]

What is the minimum area required for a perfectly reflecting solar sail which would drive a 1000 kg spaceship outward from the Earth's orbit with an acceleration of  $10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ ? [5]

[Energy flow in sunlight at the Earth's orbit =  $1300 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ .]

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11. Why are tangential components of the electric field vector  $\mathbf{E}$  at the conducting surfaces of a waveguide required to be zero? Demonstrate from this requirement that plane TEM waves at radio frequencies cannot be transmitted in a rectangular waveguide. [4]

Explain with diagrams (but without full derivation) how  $TE_{lm}$  and  $TM_{lm}$  waves can satisfy the above requirement. [3]

The waveguide equation for such waves is  $\frac{\ell^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} = \frac{k_0^2 - k_g^2}{\pi^2}$ . Define all of the quantities in this expression and use it to derive a formula for the cutoff frequency of the guide. [6]

We wish to make a waveguide in which the three lowest allowed frequencies all have  $m = 0$ . What constraint does this place upon the ratio  $a/b$ ? [7]

**END OF PAPER**